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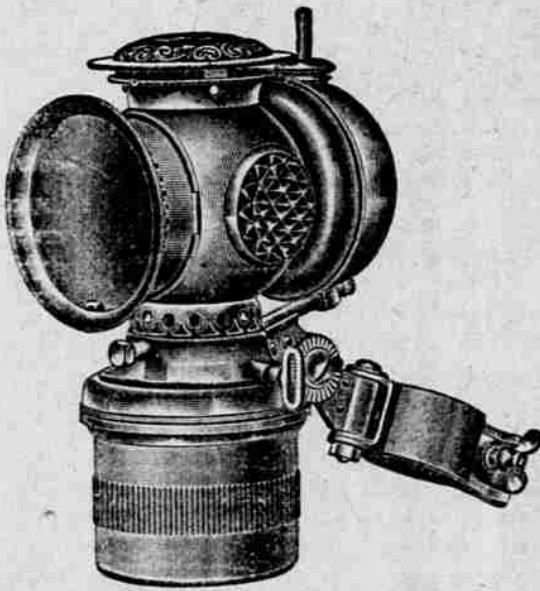


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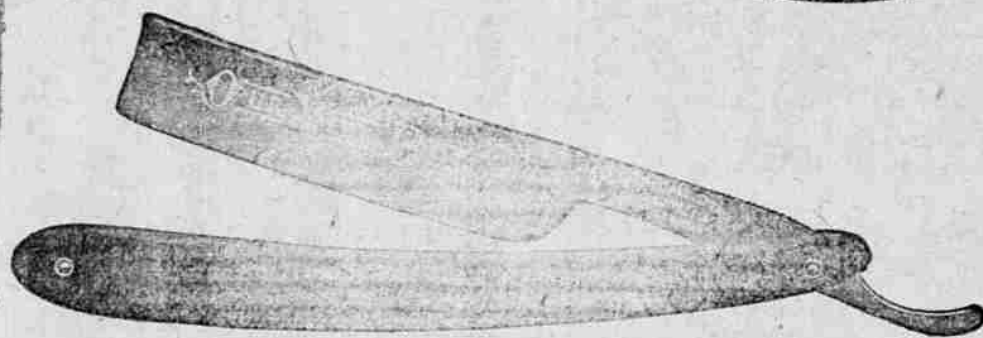
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CITY OF HANKOW, CHICAGO OF CHINA

Hankow, the Chicago of China, is the subject of an elaborate discussion in a recent number of the British Board of Trade Journal, which presents certain facts that will prove of importance to Americans interested in the trade with China. Hankow is a city of over a million inhabitants, situated about 600 miles in the interior of China, but reached by ocean-going steamers, which pass up the great Yangtze river to that point. Located as it is in the very heart of the most productive and densely populated section of China, it is one of the most important trade centers. The article in question says: "Of the treaty ports on the Yangtze Hankow is second in importance, coming only after Shanghai, which latter, from its position near the mouth, should be regarded more as a seaport than as a river port. The total import trade of the eight treaty ports on the Yangtze has been as follows: In 1897, 113,989,519 taels, of which the value of 27,190,248 entered at Hankow; in 1898, 109,446,696 taels, of which 22,872,794 entered at Hankow; and in 1899, 144,556,444 taels, of which 22,738,563 taels entered at Hankow. The total export trade of these eight ports in the same years, has been as follows: In 1897, 106,454,606 taels, of which the value of 24,549,382 taels left China through Hankow; in 1898, 102,485,332 taels, of which 39,953,651 taels value was exported from Hankow; and in 1899, 141,526,355 taels, of which 37,463,295 taels value was exported from Hankow. From the above it will be seen that as regards exports the trade of Hankow is greater than that of all the other six ports of the Yangtze, exclusive of Shanghai, whose export trade in 1899 amounted to 70,822,474 taels. The value of the Hankow trade ranges between 70 and 75 cents.

"In 1899 2,929 vessels, with a total tonnage of 1,976,031 tons, entered and cleared at the port of Hankow, as against 2,556 vessels, with a total tonnage of 1,832,060 tons, in 1898. Of the total tonnage entered and cleared at Hankow, the tonnage of British steamers amounted to 65.8 per cent in 1898, and 63.2 per cent in 1899. In the report of the deputy commissioners of customs for 1899, it is stated, with regard to the increase of shipping at Hankow in that year, as compared with 1898, that, among the reasons for this increase, may be noted the arrival of steamers with materials for the Hankow-Peking Railway.

"In the issue of the Indian Import and Export Trades Journal for February last, an article on the commercial importance of Hankow, it is stated that of all the towns in the interior of China, this is the one most likely to increase in commercial importance within the next decade. Situated as it is on the Yangtze, 650 miles from Shanghai, it holds the important position of being at the head of that portion of the Yangtze which is navigable for vessels drawing up to ten feet all the year round, and for ocean-going vessels drawing thirty feet during the flood seasons (May to October). It is also at the mouth of the Han river, a very important trade route for Chinese junk, and what is more important, the railways from Peking to the north, and Canton to the south, are to have their termini at Hankow. Hankow is, from a commercial point of view, and from that of the foreigner, the most important place of the three towns—Wuchang, Hanyang and Hankow—situated on the Yangtze close to

SCENE IN THE DEFORESTED DISTRICT OF TANTALUS



As will be seen by the above picture, the cutting away of the timber on the summit of Tantalus is anything but an improvement. Before the age of the woodcutter had begun to swing, the hill and the little valley in the foreground were as thickly covered with trees as the slope that is to be seen in the middle distance. The road that passes diagonally across the scene was a veritable arbor, so thickly did the branches interlace themselves above it.

The planting, growing and preserving of the trees that cover the sides of Tantalus have been the constant care of three governments, and it has been due to the untiring vigilance of those who have had this portion of the city's welfare at heart that the Honolulu water supply was preserved. Since the devastation of Tantalus began, thousands of cords of stove-wood have been made from the trees that helped to insure us a permanent supply of water and to make beautiful the summit of Oahu's nearest peak. It is estimated conservatively that from 4,000 to 5,000 cords of wood are lying on the ground ready to be cut into shorter lengths and sold.

each other, but separated by that river and the Han river. Its chief manufacture is brick tea. The process, briefly described, is simply grinding the dried tea to powder, cleaning it and compressing it by hydraulic or steam power into bricks of about half an inch in thickness and seven by nine inches in width and length. The bricks are almost all exported to Russian territory. There are also several works for the manufacture of albumen from the white of eggs. One factory will use as many as 3,000,000 eggs a month. The demand has caused the Chinese to trade largely in eggs. All the principal 'hongs,' as the foreign business houses are called, are in the British concession, with the exception of two German ones in their own concession. The Lu-Han Railway will, when completed, join Hankow with Peking."

Lovely Woman.—Mrs. Upperton—"When I wear my diamonds two detectives are always within the sound of my voice." Mrs. Cutting—"Goodness, gracious! If I were you I would quit trading with such suspicious installment dealers."—Chicago News.

FROM WAITER-TO AUTHOR.

Prince Kropotkin, the Russian nobleman who is now on a visit to this country, has many admiring things to say about young Gorki, a Russian writer who has been for some years a waiter on a steamer, and has lived the life of the navvies and tramps in Southern Russia. The characters he describes are taken from the lowest classes, and are considered powerful in drawing. It is said that Gorki is almost embarrassed with his popularity. Recently he attended the performance of a new play by Tschechov in a theater of Moscow. As soon as he was recognized the audience forgot the play. All eyes turned in his direction, and the cheering and clapping of hands were incessant. Gorki, by no means flattered by the ovation, grew angry, and addressed the audience impetuously: "What the deuce are you staring at me for? I am not a ballerina, nor a Venus of Milo, nor a man just saved from drowning! All I do is to write stories which have the good fortune to

please you. So much the better. But this is no reason why you should gape at me. There, on the stage, a most excellent piece is being played. You had better give it your attention and leave me alone!"—Chicago Chronicle.

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J. P. COOKE, Manager.
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